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MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY

MOREHEAD, KENTUCKY

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LIFE & ARTS



MSU student Hanna Toebben will participate in a national equestrian competition.

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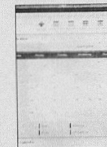
SPORTS



The Lady Eagles sweep TSU and raise \$2,300 for cancer research on the second annual Strike Out Cancer day.

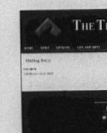
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MORE



Campus organizations can add events to the campus calendar at

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BETTY CHANEY — MANAGING EDITOR

The Student Activities Council will face an overhaul in the upcoming semester.

Student Activities Director Mike Eposito said there was no single reason that prompted the change in the organization, which has operated in its current model for at least 10 years.

"After observing the current model, Fern Roberts (Student Activities Coordinator) and I sat back and thought about what we could do to make this better," Eposito said.

The new Student Programming Board (SPB) will be lead by four students picked through an application process. Eposito said each position will have its own responsibilities.

The social events coordinator will be in charge of planning standard events, such as music, comedy, or movies. The "edutainment" events coordinator will plan events that are educational but entertaining. Events that are multicultural or related to the arts will be the responsibility of the cultural events coordinator. The Dance Marathon will be managed by the special events coordinator, who also will be an assistant to the Student Activities Coordinator.

Eposito said the interest SEE ACTIVITIES — page 2



The MSU Student Activities Council, which organizes events such as concerts and the Dance Marathon, will be restructured in the fall and renamed the Student Programming Board.



Photos by Carlo Angerer / The Trail Blazer

Andrews defends tuition increase

CLAYTON AKERS — STAFF WRITER

MSU President Wayne Andrews and Beth Patrick, vice president for planning, budgets and technology, held a tuition forum on April 8 to discuss a 4-percent tuition increase for the upcoming academic year.

About 35 students gathered in the Ringle room in the Adron Doran University Center to listen to Andrews and Patrick discuss the tuition increase and budget cuts for the upcoming 2009-2010 academic year.

President Andrews opened the forum saying the university needs to plan ahead strategically because of the economic times, where it all trickles down to the business of higher education.

"The state's support for higher education is in decline," Andrews said.

Andrews said during these times the administration wants to be fair to the students.

Patrick echoed Andrews sentiments.

"We must maintain affordability for students," she said.

Patrick said, by containing tuition costs over the years, MSU has lost flexibility to contain costs now.

"We are going to make significant cuts and they have to be strategic," Patrick said.

Cuts mentioned include the elimination of graduate tuition waivers for spouses and dependents of employees, and cuts in some mid-year concert events.

The significant changes in the tuition rates will include a 4 percent, or \$9 per credit hour.

"We must maintain affordability for students."

Wayne Andrews
— MSU president

increase for students. The discount that undergraduate students with 13 credit hours or more would normally get will change from an 80 percent discount to a 70 percent discount starting in the fall semester.

Part-time students will see an average increase in tuition of \$36 and full-time students

will see an increase of \$159 per semester.

So, out of 10 MSU students will not be affected by the tuition increase because students with financial aid assistance will be covered by Pell Grants, Patrick said.

Even with the tuition increase, Patrick said the numbers for incoming freshmen are high.

The university has had the highest attendance at Open House events ever, and SOAR numbers project the freshman class will be up, Patrick said.

There is a strong housing demand for next fall and MSU projects 2,300 students will be living on campus next semester, Patrick said.

"Because of stated budget cuts, students reacted to the announced tuition increase primarily with understanding."

MSU junior C.J. Ellison said he thought the tuition increase for the upcoming year is reasonable for the students.

"I think the tuition increase is really reasonable," Ellison said. "It seems like the administration is trying to keep our tuition down."

Sophomore Lindsay Adams said the fo-

SEE TUITION — page 2

Former president dead at 96

CARLO ANGERER — EDITOR

Dr. A. D. Albright, the 10th president of Morehead State University, died Friday morning at his home in Wilmore, Ky.

The 96-year old served as MSU president from July 1986 to June 1987.

President Albright was a leader of strong integrity and high standards," MSU President Wayne D. Andrews said, according to a press release. "His brief but effective leadership of this institution came at a critical time in our history. He was a towering figure in public higher education in Kentucky."

Albright served as president of Northern Kentucky University from 1976 to 1983.

A memorial service will be held April 26 at 3 p.m. at Wilmore Free Methodist Church.

Study drugs hit campus

COODY EVANS — SPORTS EDITOR

Long semesters and long research papers leave some college students turning to drugs for help.

Accounts of off-label prescription medication used to help students study have become common in recent years. These so-called "study drugs" have been gaining prevalence on college campuses across America.

The medication most closely associated with the trend is Adderall.

Originally derived from a weight loss drug in 1996, Adderall is an amphetamine prescribed to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). If used incorrectly, Adderall can lead to addiction. Prolonged use can cause irreparable heart damage and death in extreme cases, according to medical experts.

The exact process by which Adderall affects the brain is unknown.

Michelle Webb, an MSU substance abuse and prevention counselor, said Adderall abuse has been reported at MSU but

with relatively low frequency.

"We just completed the Core Survey online, which surveys students' alcohol and drug behavior, and according to that we've got maybe 2 percent of students who are using (study drugs)," Webb said.

Webb said prescriptions for Adderall are difficult for college students to get but the drug is not.

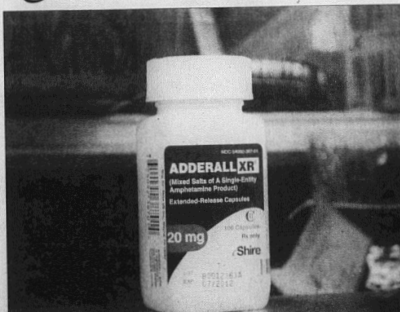
"It's probably as easy to obtain as anything else without a prescription," Webb said. "Maybe a little more so because a friend may have a prescription for it and say 'oh sure, go ahead.'"

Such was the case for one MSU student, who asked that his name not be used for fear of legal action. The student, 20, has a prescription for Adderall and admitted to having distributed pills to friends in the past.

"It's like steroids for school," the student said. "It isn't really very common, but it's common enough that it's noticeable."

The student admitted to abusing Adderall for his own school assignments.

SEE DRUGS — page 2



Adderall has become the study drug of choice for some students looking for help to concentrate.

Coody Evans / The Trail Blazer



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FACULTY & STAFF ALUMNI & FRIENDS COMMUNITY

Wednesday, April 15, 2009 ~ 45°

STUDENT ACTIVITIES COUNCIL



nce Marathon Home | Event Detail

Screenshot morehead.edu

Morehead State University's web site still boasts the Student Activities Council's logo. The organization will be renamed in the fall.

ACTIVITIES

continued from page 1

in the SPB has been "tremendous."

"We have 18 applications for the four positions," Esposto said. Compare that to four for three positions last year. There's a lot of new faces but a few of the applicants are current members. The positions will be filled by either the end of this week or sometime next week."

The four students will be paid as work studies and will be in charge of a committee in their program areas, Esposto said. Any student can join these com-

mittees and help plan events. There will be no set number of events students can help with. Students could assist in the planning of a single event or all events their committee is responsible for.

"The work study positions are a kind of an apprenticeship," Esposto said. "They will serve to help the students learn how to plan events and be professional. The students will attend training to help in these areas."

Esposito said he is excited about the changes.

"It will be a positive change for Morehead State," he said. "I predict an increase in program numbers and in the quality of the programs."

DRUGS

continued from page 1

"When I have a big speech or a paper, I use it so I'm prepared," the student said.

He described the reaction to Adderall as providing an incredible sensation of focus.

"You can't multitask, you have

to focus on one thing," he said.

"Distractions will never distract you. You forget to sleep."

The student said Adderall abuse is seen mostly in males and spikes around the end of each semester.

He said he saw no lasting, negative effects from using Adderall and experienced only a temporary feeling of withdrawal the day immediately following

TUITION

continued from page 1

rum was informative in explaining the budget cuts and reasons behind the tuition increase.

"It was nice to see where all our money is being divvied to and the reasons for the budget cuts."

Patrick said the 2009-2010 budget priorities include offsetting the 2 percent state budget reduction for 2009-10, employee health plans, the student recreation center, and capital projects, such as the space science building and a complete renovation of the pollution control system on the heating plant.

Medical documents provided by Holbrook Drugs described

Adderall withdrawal symptoms as having both mental and physical effects, including feelings of anxiousness or unhappiness, dizziness, skin irritation, mood swings and difficulty sleeping.

Though commonly found on campuses, Adderall abuse is not strictly limited to college students.

A Fleming County resident, 20, said he had taken the drug to boost his physical performance on the job.

"I was working at a pallet mill, Johnson Brothers, 10-hour days," he said. "I couldn't handle it, I was too small — if you aren't built for something, if you're skinny and it's a hard job, it's the drug for you."

The man said he used Adderall for about two months but it was hard to find without the proper connection. He obtained the drug from a coworker and used it to stay awake while operating a machine. He said he had experienced no negative effects afterward.

He said it was not uncommon for people to crush the pill so it could be snorted or administered via syringe.

Another 21-year-old Fleming County resident, who admitted to having used the drug, described Adderall as "synthetic cocaine" and said the punishment for off-label possession of the drug was severe.

"Seven years a pill, just like anything else," he said. "It's just like having a \$30 (bag of marijuana)."

THE TRAIL BLAZER

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April 16, 2009

THE TRAIL BLAZER

EDITORIAL

College degree won't guarantee employment

"Where dreams take root ... and grow" is the slogan Morehead State University uses to attract potential students. It is embedded on the web site, on T-shirts, and other advertising venues. Other universities use similar slogans.

The slogans might be worded differently, but they all hint at the promise: Education will open up great opportunities — steady employment, higher salaries, leadership positions.

But these promises have lost their glamour. Today, higher education does not guarantee a job. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 4.3 percent of college graduates were unemployed in March. The rate is lower than the overall unemployment rate, but it is still the highest unemployment rate for college grads since the government started tracking them in 1992.

Recent and soon-to-be college graduates face an even-greater challenge — they have to compete with recently laid off workers.

These job hunters have advantages over recent graduates. They have experience and networks. They know people in the business.

Clearly, a college diploma is not a guarantee for immediate employment anymore.

Some graduates get creative. Jamie Varon, 23, wanted to work at Twitter, but applying through the company's Web site did not land her an interview. So she created her own Web site, twittershouldhireme.com and landed a job at Twitter. Other graduates have already created knockoffs, including facebookshouldhireme.com and googleshouldhireme.com.

But not all of today's college students are this creative and they often struggle to meet even basic thresholds for finding employment.

Some seniors are about to graduate but have never done an internship or worked in the field they have studied. Without the necessary field experience and career contacts, landing a job just out of college will be hard. For seniors, it will be hard to add those highlights to their resumes after graduation, but for younger students it is not too late.

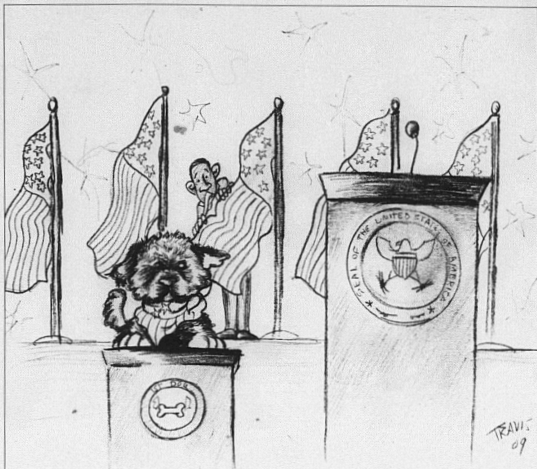
They have to start now. They can start building networks and gaining experience through internships, attending conferences, doing volunteer work and other means that provide evidence on their resumes and in their portfolios that they can do something other than attend class.

When higher education can no longer deliver on the promise of fulfilling career dreams, students must take control of their own path to success, and having only a diploma won't get them there.

Be part of the discussion

The Trail Blazer welcomes reader responses. Letters should be 400 words or less and signed. Addresses and telephone numbers should be included (for verification purposes only). Letters must be received in Room 317 Breckinridge Hall or emailed to editor@trailblazeronline.net by 4 p.m. Friday for the next week's publication.

The Trail Blazer reserves the right to edit letters for purposes of clarity, brevity and legal considerations.



Bo takes the Capitol spotlight



CARLO
ANGERER
—
Editor

On Tuesday afternoon the U.S. media finally had good news to report.

After days of more bad economic news, war reports from Afghanistan and pirate attacks off the Somali Coast, a special someone saved the day from the White House — our lawn. It had nothing to do with

President Barack Obama. The first family dog had finally arrived to save us from a world of gloom and doom!

CNN reported on its web site that during his debut the new first dog made "frequent stops for hearty sniffs at his new surroundings." Of course keeping in character, FOXNews reported heavily on the fact that "the president broke a campaign promise to adopt a dog from a shelter."

Senator Ted Kennedy gifted the Portuguese Water

Dog, which the Obama girls named Bo.

According to the American Kennel Club, the breed is a "loyal worker and companion" — something President Obama might need in the coming weeks as he takes on Congress and the press.

But Portuguese Water Dogs are also said to make good family pets, so it is unlikely Bo will defend the president as heartily as his predecessor, Barney, who defended Bush's domain by biting a Reuters reporter

who tried to pet him.

But even if Bo doesn't bite reporters who are hounding his master, he could still help out by taking the spotlight whenever possible.

"He's a star. He's got star quality," President Obama was reported as saying.

So, maybe when things in Washington get too contentious, the president can renew his aura by just basking for awhile in the glow of the newest White House star.

Study drugs are illegal and dangerous



BETTY
CHANEY
—
MANAGING
Editor

In a college environment, students can become spoiled by how easily accessible certain commodities are.

Students are surrounded by quantities of knowledge and wisdom and the tools to succeed are at their fingertips. But a growing number of students are turning to

study drugs as the answer to college success.

Adderall, the most common study drug, is manufactured and prescribed for ADHD. It stimulates the central nervous system to help the parts of the brain that control the ability to focus. This is fine for those who legitimately need the drug, but many students are using the drug to help "zone out" while studying.

Even though many see this ability to focus as beneficial, recreational Adderall use can be detrimental.

Many recreational users mistakenly believe Adderall is safe because it is a prescription drug. Some users crush and snort the pills or inject them into the bloodstream, making it even more dangerous. Adderall is not sterile and can cause infection.

Long-term misuse can result in heart problems, overdose, or death.

There are other, safer options for helping students focus on tests and other coursework.

Find a quiet place or

corner of a library away from distractions like noisy roommates or a Facebook addiction. Figure out at which time of day it is easier to study.

Adderall is an addictive drug that provides the same criminal and medical dangers as other illegal drugs many students call recreational drugs. Is an A really worth a drug arrest or all the potential negative health effects?

CAMPUS COMMENT

What is your strategy for studying when under stress?

With finals week coming up, the Trail Blazer asked students what strategies they have to study when under stress.



Cassie Cales
Government/Pre-Law
Sophomore; Carter County

"I go to the library where it's quiet. I can't get anything done in the dorms cause of my friends talking."



Medetria Gipson
Theater Education
Sophomore; Lexington

"I go to the library and close myself off in the study area or the reference area especially at night when no one is there"



Talbert Hall
Undeclared
Freshman; Breathitt County

"I take a break. I just stop for about an hour or two and play video games for a little while."



Allison Hesler
Pre-veterinary
Freshman; Ripley, Ohio

"I go to the library where it's nice and quiet."

THE TRAIL BLAZER

Campus statues need approval

Committee, provost, president decide on artwork

LOGAN TODD — STAFF WRITER

When students walk through campus one of the features that stand out are the art pieces scattered along the walkways. Many of these pieces have been here for years, but few students have ever thought about what goes into the process of approving the pieces to be publicly displayed, or the work that goes in to picking the exact location of each statue.

Most of the art displayed on campus are sculptures, many of which are bronze. Many students in the art program produce sculptures but not many are made to be at the scale or form that is most suitable for public display. Morehead State University has a special committee, the Campus Sculpture Committee, created to evaluate and recommend proposed student sculptures to be displayed on campus. The committee ensures that student sculptures that are proposed to go on display have the artistic value, and physical characteristics required for public display.

The committee is made up of Art Department Chair Robert Frazee, Art Professor Stephen Trompe, Todd Thacker, Building Maintenance Superintendent,

Terri Roberts, Student Activities Coordinator, Suetta Redwine, director of University Center and Counseling, and Michael Lauletta, a student representative who has personally gone through the process.

The committee analyzes proposed sculptures in three ways. The pieces are evaluated by their technical and aesthetic quality, the suitability and appropriateness of the proposed location, and the durability and security of the piece in a public setting.

"Location is important, you can't just stick a sculpture anywhere," Franzini said.

When the committee approves the sculpture they send their decision to the Office of the Provost. The Provost, currently Karla Hughes, evaluates the feasibility of the project and, if approved, passes the decision on to the final stage of approval.

The President's office is responsible for making the final decision. If approved, the work is installed at the approved location.

Franzini said President Andrews has been very supportive of student sculptures on campus, and his office has purchased some of the plaques that accompany many of the sculptures on

campus.

Installments of pieces on campus are temporary. Some of the pads, such as the one that now holds the concrete statue outside of the art building, are specifically placed for student work and change every several years.

The approval process is important to sculpture students because it parallels the process that professional sculptors go through to get their pieces displayed in communities, Franzini said.

The bronze moon sculpture located near the Free Speech Area went through this process. The sculpture was made by Morehead students Karen Jordan of Vanceburg, Andrew McDonald of Mt. Sterling, and Caleb Spencer of Owensville. The students, with the consultation of Professor Ben Malheurs of the Space Science Center, made the surface of the sculpture based on maps of the moon's surface. The sculpture was made to scale, by distance and size, to the earth sculpture in front of the Little Bell Tower. It was recommended by Professor Trompe to the committee in 2007, and was unveiled in its place on campus on Dec. 6, 2007.



Cody Evans / The Trail Blazer

Student artwork must pass the approval of several parties before being displayed.

Visitation concerns students

COURTNEY HESTINGS — STAFF WRITER

Many students who live in residence halls have visitors throughout the year. Some think hours governing visitation need to be changed.

Residence hall visiting hours are set using an approval process. Most halls have visiting hours from 12 p.m. to 12 a.m. Sunday through Thursday. On weekends the hours are extended to 2 a.m. West Mignon Hall has 24-hour visitation on weekends.

Dean of Students Kevin Koett said, "We talked to the RHA and student government. Visitation problems have been an issue since before I started working here. We talk to students sitting in the cafeteria, and formally sit in on RHA meetings to find out what students think."

Sophomore Sydney Howard

said, "I can understand them being concerned for our safety, so if there were a system in place, for example, checking overnight visitors in at the front desk, then they would know who is in the building and everyone would feel safer."

Howard said she and her roommate do not have a problem with the visitation rules.

"We filled out a roommate agreement at the beginning of the year. We discussed when we were comfortable having visitors. If one of us needs the room to ourselves, we explain the situation to each other. If she doesn't agree, I would be okay with that."

Sophomore Ryan Brammer said, "I don't feel like the hours are fair. My roommate's girlfriend needed to borrow a book from him in the morning and got

written up because she was there before visiting hours."

Freshman Kaylin Pinson said, "I think they should be more understanding about people being in rooms after midnight. I was written up at 12:30 for just watching TV."

Koett said he found it interesting that although they gave West Mignon 24-hour visitation on weekends, based on student feedback, MSU couldn't get people to live in the building.

"That's not making sense to me," Koett said.

Koett said he thinks students generally have an expectation and respect for visitation policies.

He said there are always some issues, and that is not likely to change.



Photos by Cody Evans / The Trail Blazer



Many students feel visitation hours should be more flexible. West Mignon, upper right, is the only dorm with 24-hour visitation.



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Showtimes for Friday, April 17

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Monsters vs. Aliens

PG-13 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:50

Fast and Furious

1:25 4:25 7:30 9:55

Observe and Report

R 1:20 4:15 7:15 9:40

I Love You, Man

PG-13 9:45

The Hannah Montana Movie

PG-13 1:15 4:00 7:00 9:25

A Haunting in Connecticut

PG-13 1:35 4:30 7:45 10:00

17 Again

PG-13 1:30 4:10 7:20 9:45

Equestrian rider headed to nationals

CANDICE TUFANO — STAFF WRITER

MSU Junior Equestrian team member Hanna Toebben will soon be making a trip to Murfreesboro, Tenn., to participate in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association's Nationals.

Nationals will be held April 23-26 and Toebben will be competing April 23 and will receive her results the same day after everyone in her division has competed.

Toebben said, "To qualify for nationals you have to get at least 35 points in your division, once you get your 35 points you qualify for regionals you must place first or second at regionals to move on."

There are three levels a rider can qualify for, novice, intermediate, and advanced. There are also three different styles, hunter seat, western, and saddle seat. Toebben will be competing in novice hunter seat.

Toebben, a business marketing major from Crescent Springs, Ky., is no stranger to national competition and competed on the national level last year.

"Last year nationals were in Burbank Calif. and two other girls qualified with me," Toebben said.

No other team members qualified for the event this year but her coach and a few team members will be on hand for support.

"Our coach is the regional vice presi-

dent so she has to go to all of the events like this, and three of the girls have volunteered to help warm up the horses," Toebben said.

The horse that she will ride will be selected at random.

She said, "It's a luck of the draw system, all we know about them is what we read from a description on a piece of paper and what we get from watching them warm up."

Horses from all across the country will be present at the competition and will be categorized into the appropriate divisions that they fit best. MSU will be supplying six of these horses, she said.

"It's really an honor, it shows that we have top-notch horses," said Toebben. Toebben has been practicing multiple days per week all school year to prepare for competition.

"All team members are required to take a riding class, so I go to that once a week and also practice once for flat work and once for jumping," Toebben said.

Toebben and other team members also practice at the barn during their free time.

For the next two years nationals will be held at the Kentucky Horse Park which means MSU will play a big role in helping coordinate and supply horses for nationals, she said.



Photos by Cody Evans / The Trail Blazer

Hanna Toebben competes in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association's National on April 23.



CAMPUS CALENDAR

April 16
Sobriety Checkpoint at ADUC 2nd floor
11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Graduate recital: Michael Tyler Harris and Kevin Lampson
in Duncan Recital Hall
8-9 p.m.

April 17
Kentucky Music Educators Association Concert Band
Festival at Baird Music Hall
12-9 p.m.

Live at Five concert series: MSU student ensembles at
the Rowan County Arts Center
5-7 p.m.

April 18
Cave Run Lake and Roadside clean up at Paragon boat
ramp
9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sax Studio Concert in Duncan Recital Hall
8 p.m.

April 21
Chip Kidd lecture and book signing at Claypool-Young 111
7-9 p.m.

April 22
Guest lecturer: G. Steven Manning presents: Business
and Career Opportunities in Biofuels in 130 Lappin Hall
5:30-6:30 p.m.

Musical: Urinetown in Button Auditorium
7:30-9:30 p.m.



Cody Evans / The Trail Blazer

Harvey Pennington picks the banjo while Larry Albert plays mandolin. The duo play folk music to warm up before opening for Pandemonium Charter Group Saturday.

Dear Advertising/Public Relations 2009 graduates

We congratulate you on all your achievements so far! You have been a terrific class and we look forward to hearing about your future job positions, accomplishments, and other successes.

Best of luck,
Public Relations Student Society of America
Morehead Chapter



Front Row: Dr. McCoy, Shyla Dawn, Krista Randle, Suzanne McHenry, Jessica Smith, Amanda Lewis.
Second Row: Chad Mullins, Eric Parker, Tere Clark, Amanda Roemer, Thelma Jones, Rachaela, Matthew.
Back Row: Lewis, Perry, Ryan, Derick, Rebecca Hollen, Josh Mullins, Abner, Amanda Moore, Jordan, Sherrill.

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Ladies sweep Strike-Out weekend

CODY EVANS — SPORTS EDITOR

Morehead State softball's second annual Strike Out Cancer day was held Saturday.

The Lady Eagles (23-14, 7-7) swept the three-game weekend series against Tennessee State (2-0, 5-0, 6-3) and raised \$2,300 for cancer research in the process.

Originally scheduled as a single game, Strike Out Cancer became an impromptu double-header when Friday's late game was rained out and moved to Saturday afternoon.

MSU opened the series with a 2-0 win over the Tigers in Friday's early game before rain cut the afternoon short.

Saturday's opener saw junior pitcher Alex Gjevrev go the distance and keep TSU off the board for a 5-0 MSU shutout.

Gjevrev (17-7) faced 21 batters during the game and allowed only three hits, tallying four strike outs to bring her season total to 182. Gjevrev's ERA currently stands at a conference-best 0.98.

Gjevrev said the victories over Tennessee should serve as a starting point for the Lady Eagles' to improve down the stretch.

"Our record isn't that good in conference, so this really helped us," Gjevrev said. "Our coaches keep saying this should be going to win most of the games that we need to win and I think we have a great chance of making the tournament."

Junior Sarah Funston started the second game at pitcher for the Lady Eagles and posted a shaky performance, giving up three runs and four hits in only three innings.

Freshman Ashley Boyd took the mound in the fourth inning with MSU down 3-1. Boyd managed to keep the Tigers off the board long enough for the Lady Eagles to rally. Outfielder Brittany Scheer hit a single to score Bethany Ellis and Kayla Brill, bringing MSU back into the game at 3-3.

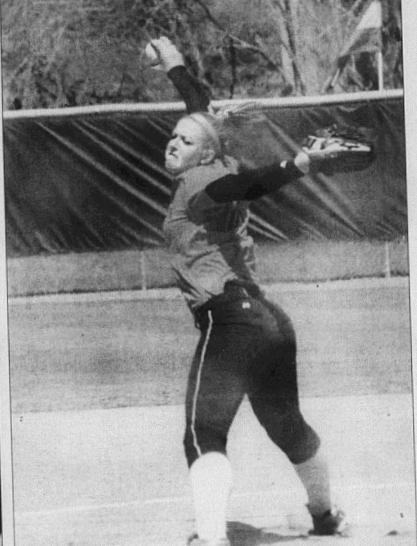
Lady Eagle coach Holly Bruder credited strong leadoff hitting and patience at the plate for the MSU rally.

"That was the best series we've played," Bruder said. "It's the best we've played consistently for three games — we usually get one or two outs before somebody gets on and now we don't have any outs to get her in."

With Boyd settled into the game, the Lady Eagles took control in the fifth inning. Sam Woodall batted in Bri Jones to start the Eagle surge. Bianca Cardenas followed by sending Rebecca Butler home to move the score to 5-3. Brill tacked on the final run to put the game out of the Tigers' reach at 6-3.

Freshman Lady Eagle Carrie Himmelhaver, a cancer survivor, attempted to put MSU's Strike Out Cancer day in perspective.

"I know it's a big thing for me to donate back to the American Cancer Society because I know how important it was for me to know that people were donating," Himmelhaver said. "I know if a lot of people hadn't donated, then they wouldn't have known how to treat what I had."



Cody Evans / The Trail Blazer

Junior Sarah Funston started the second game for MSU. Funston left after the third inning.



Cody Evans / The Trail Blazer

Pitcher Alex Gjevrev celebrates with her team after the first game of Saturday's doubleheader.

Eagle baseball shows improvement

KOREN ELLIS — STAFF WRITER

The Morehead State Baseball Eagles came out on top last weekend with a two-game sweep against Austin Peay, Ohio Valley Conference pitcher of the week, Tyler Bess, threw a complete game for a 3-1 win, allowing only one earned run.

This win provides the fourth consecutive conference victory for the Eagles, setting them at 5-6 in the OVC and 12-19 overall.

Bess is now 4-2 and allowed only three hits after pitching his third consecutive complete game. He has struck out 17 of the last 19 batters faced during the last three games.

"My arm felt good and I'm glad I can keep working for the team in hopes of winning more conference games," Bess said.

Austin Peay's only earned run was a fourth inning solo home run by junior utility player Matt Kolt. Bess struck out five and walked one during Saturday's first game.

Morehead's offense was able to back Bess and second-gam-

pitcher Jeff Arnold with 12 hits enabling the Eagles to take both games.

"We played well, and will have to continue to do so if we want to keep winning," Bess said. "Our defense looks better and we are producing more hits as a team. As long as our defense stays strong we can allow ourselves time to score runs."

MSU's first score came from an RBI single by freshman Luke Bainer in the third inning. Junior pitcher Quentin Morgan said, "Our lineup is good, we just have to work on keeping the other team to a low number of runs."

Game two was much the same story.

"Both pitchers threw great today, and they were able to keep things running smoothly," junior pitcher Quentin Morgan said. "Our lineup is good, we just have to work on keeping the other team to a low number of runs."

The Eagles answered a strong APSU start by scoring three runs

in the third inning. Deeds and Drew Lee crossed the plate after a double by Bottoms. Bottoms crossed the plate off a single by Pugh.

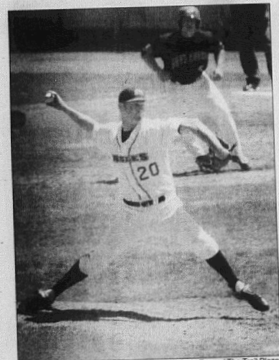
away with his fourth win after pitching five and two-thirds innings. Bottoms relieved Arnold for the final inning, collecting his first save this season.

Starting pitcher Arnold came



Cody Evans / The Trail Blazer

Sophomore Casey Branham bats for the Eagles against APSU.



Cody Evans / The Trail Blazer

Senior Tyler Bess pitched a complete game Saturday to beat the Gavs 3-1. Bess is 4-2 on the season with a 3.38 ERA.

Tennis advances to OVC tournament

CLAYTON AKERS — STAFF WRITER

The MSU men's tennis team has advanced to the OVC Tournament for the first time since 2005.

The Eagles are seeded fifth in the tournament and will take on fourth seed Murray State in the first round Friday at the Larry Hefflin Tennis Center in Paducah, Ky.

The first-round matchup marks the second meeting this season between the Eagles and Racers. In the earlier meeting Murray State slipped past the Eagles 4-3.

MSU finished the regular season at 9-6 (4-4 in the OVC) and will seek its first OVC Tournament championship.

Greg Anderson and Bradley Bryan lead the team with 10 singles wins each.

The two have combined to net a 7-5 doubles record on the season. Kevin Fulton, a former elementary school physical education teacher and NAIA coach, is in his fourth year as head coach of the MSU men's and women's tennis programs.

The men's team posted an 8-12 record in 2008, falling short of the OVC Tournament.

SDENES

Kentucky behind in high-school softball

ALLISON HOKRDESKY — STAFF WRITER

Young softball players throughout the smaller counties and towns in Kentucky are being done a disservice by their communities, parents and schools.

Issues with facilities and equipment are only the tip of this enormous iceberg. However, these problems can be overlooked due to financial crises and low funding in high schools in areas such as these.

Now this is Kentucky, so you better believe that everyone's high school gym is in tip-top condition, and the coaches are extremely qualified and devoted.

But this is spring, and softball season is upon us.

With schools like MSU, UK and Mar-

shall, all within around 60 miles of here, and each with successful softball teams, you would think that local high schools would have Division I softball players coming out of the woodwork.

So why don't they?

Let's start with the lack of summer ball options in the area. For a young girl to take her game to the next level, she must be involved with a competitive, traveling summer team. Local girls are forced to drive an hour to find a team that is even remotely respected or known. Even then, anyone involved in the sport knows this area is not a hotbed for competitive softball teams.

Granted, not everyone has the money or time to travel every weekend to tournaments all over the country. With that said, why aren't the community and lo-

cal schools doing the best they possibly can to ensure their female athletes have a competitive high school season? That's the big question.

Kentucky was the last state in the U.S. to transition to fastpitch softball in high school. If there is any possibility for these athletes to have an opportunity to play at the collegiate level, they have to catch up, and do it fast.

Many Kentucky girls have the athletic ability and desire, just not the proper training. Summer traveling teams aren't feasible for everyone, so make a change at the high school level.

So let's all pitch in, put a little heat on our communities, school boards and parents to hire some qualified coaches. A little will go a long way.